

Focus Area #3: Substance abuse - worker knowledge, strategies, resources

Goal #1	Baseline	Process Measure	Date Due	Quarterly Progress
Strengthen relationship with State and local substance abuse authorities.	No formal agreements	Formal relationships established	See below.	
1. In collaboration with Regional DCFS and Local Substance Abuse Authority Staff, develop statewide and local Memoranda of Understanding with the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health and local authorities that identify cooperative working arrangements and outline responsibilities of DCFS, DSAMH, and Local Substance Abuse Authorities (LSAA).		MOU with DSAMH Each region completes at least one MOU with a local substance abuse authority	June 2008 Dec 2008	At the DCFS Administrative Team meeting in December 2007, the region directors reported that division directors of Substance Abuse and DCFS meet regularly to share information about new developments, upcoming legislation, and other issues for collaboration. Initial discussions have been held for the state level MOU.
2. Cooperate in development of legislation or policies allowing for statewide collection, distribution, and analysis of data for mutual clients between child welfare, domestic violence, and substance abuse to help increase statewide coordination between the state, counties and communities.		Concern raised in meetings with department administration or legislature	Ongoing	We have convened a multi-agency committee to improve coordination across the state in terms of substance abuse issues. The group has discussed joint trainings, shared information for their websites and provided information about processes within each agency.
3. Identify and coordinate with other organizations conducting substance abuse in Utah to avoid duplication of efforts and to better collaborate to address issues and needs.		Documentation of collaborative activities	Ongoing	DCFS has hired a full-time employee who is focused on substance abuse and mental health. He will complete a statewide assessment of strengths, concerns and needs across the agencies, as well as identify training needs and opportunities to avoid duplicating

				efforts. This assessment will be completed by Sep 1, 2008. This assessment will help guide the activities for increasing worker knowledge, analysis of data, resolution of barriers between agencies and increase resource awareness.
4. Participate in the Governor's Cabinet Council and support council efforts to promote substance abuse prevention and treatment, particularly pertaining to children and families.		Governor's Cabinet Council Minutes	Quarterly	The director and the child abuse prevention manager from DCFS attended Governor's Child and Family Cabinet Council meetings held in 2007. (See the Governor's Executive Order issued in June 2007 establishing this council.)
Goal #2	Baseline	Process Measure	Date Due	
Increase caseworker and supervisor knowledge of (1) effective strategies to work with families when substance abuse is a factor, and (2) availability of and access to treatment resources in the community.	No baseline is available	New feedback measures from workers	June 2009	A workgroup has been developed to ascertain the needs related to these goals. At the first meeting on December 12, 2007, it was apparent that in order to avoid duplication of efforts, the membership of the workgroup needed to be expanded to include the following entities in subsequent meetings, the next of which is January 17, 2008: The Narcotics Association, the Drug Endangered Children's Committee, the Court Improvement Project, the Domestic Violence Program Administrator, and the subcommittee members of the State Quality

				Improvement Committee who are working on developing statewide training related to newborns exposed to substance abuse.
1. Implement follow-up activities for substance abuse training for DCFS staff.		Curriculum, training records, and evaluation	Ongoing with quarterly reports	The previously mentioned statewide assessment will provide information which will be incorporated in a training plan for DCFS staff as well as some joint training with substance abuse/MH staff.
2. In conjunction with Local Substance Abuse Authorities and other community partners, participate in local substance abuse resource discussions and training on clinical treatment and interventions effective in protecting the permanency, safety, and wellbeing of children of substance abusers.		Joint resource discussions or training held at least annually	Annually by June 30	The substance abuse program administrator will meet with each local substance abuse authority as part of his statewide assessment in terms of strengths, concerns and needs.
3. Analyze use of Promoting Safe and Stable Families Time Limited Reunification grant funds. As appropriate, make recommendations and assist in implementing improvements in DCFS region practices to better address substance abuse and other allowable treatment needs.		Report completed. New 5-yr Child and Family Services Plan.	Dec 2008 June 2009	
4. Explore child welfare-specific resources as they become available for addressing substance abuse and child welfare needs.		Record of grant search and grant application, if available	Ongoing	